**FANNY BAY SALMONID ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY (FBSES)**

**April 2017**

By Judy Ackinclose

Many people over the years have enjoyed walking the trail to the falls at the Rosewall Provincial Park. This year bank erosion has been devastating to the degree that BC Parks had thought about removing the parking area altogether. But instead Dave Polster, a soil bioengineering specialist, was called in and has presented a bank stabilization plan. With the help of a number of volunteers, a day in the classroom and a day in the field, hopefully the work that has been done will stabilize the bank for future years.

Plans are in full force for our 10th annual festival “The River Never Sleeps” for Sunday May 7 from 10 am to 3 pm. Over 500 people enjoyed the event last year. Many groups from all over the island will have displays of their work in creeks, with fish, water quality, recycling, birds, bugs and much more. As usual we have a very family friendly concession and our ever so popular and delicious, Mac’s Oysters. Hope to see you there. Posters with more information will be distributed about town and displayed on the website in April.

Smolt traps (boxes where volunteers take a daily count of coho leaving the creeks) will be located on Cook Creek, Mud Bay Creek and this year we have added Wilfred Creek. These boxes also provide us with a snapshot of other species using the creeks such as salamanders, shrews, water bugs, frogs and various other fish species. These numbers will give us and DFO a good indication on the overwintering fresh water survival of coho.

Ponding (which is the transfer of fry from incubation trays to tanks) of 50,000chum and 70,000 coho started the last week of March.

If you would like to join us on a Wednesday or Saturday work party and learn more about what our volunteers do, our hours of operation are 9 am to 12 pm, Rosewall Creek on Berray Road. For more information, visit our website **www.fbses.ca**.